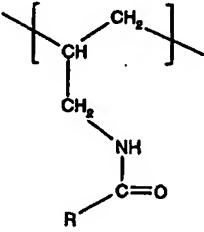


PCT

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
International Bureau



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁷ : C08F 8/00, C09D 139/02, G02B 1/04		A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 00/31150 (43) International Publication Date: 2 June 2000 (02.06.00)
<p>(21) International Application Number: PCT/EP99/08868</p> <p>(22) International Filing Date: 18 November 1999 (18.11.99)</p> <p>(30) Priority Data: 98122012.2 20 November 1998 (20.11.98) EP</p> <p>(71) Applicant (<i>for all designated States except AT US</i>): NOVARTIS AG [CH/CH]; Schwarzwaldallee 215, CH-4058 Basel (CH).</p> <p>(71) Applicant (<i>for AT only</i>): NOVARTIS-ERFINDUNGEN VERWALTUNGSGESELLSCHAFT M.B.H. [AT/AT]; Brunner Strasse 59, A-1230 Vienna (AT).</p> <p>(72) Inventor; and</p> <p>(75) Inventor/Applicant (<i>for US only</i>): STOCKINGER, Friedrich [AT/CH]; Au Fernotz 20, CH-1784 Courtepin (CH).</p> <p>(74) Agent: BECKER, Konrad; Novartis AG, Corporate Intellectual Property, Patent & Trademark Dept., CH-4002 Basel (CH).</p>		<p>(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).</p> <p>Published <i>With international search report.</i></p>	
(54) Title: FUNCTIONALIZED POLYALLYLAMINES AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE SAME			
 <p style="text-align: center;">(1)</p>			
(57) Abstract			
<p>The invention relates to novel polyallyl amine polymers having a weight average molecular weight of at least 2000 that, based on the number of amino groups of the polyallyl amine, comprises from approximately 1 to 99 % of units of formula (1), wherein R is as defined in the claims. The novel polyallyl amine polymers are useful, for example, for the surface-modification of different substrates or may be used for the manufacture of biomedical mouldings.</p>			

FOR THE PURPOSES OF INFORMATION ONLY

Codes used to identify States party to the PCT on the front pages of pamphlets publishing international applications under the PCT.

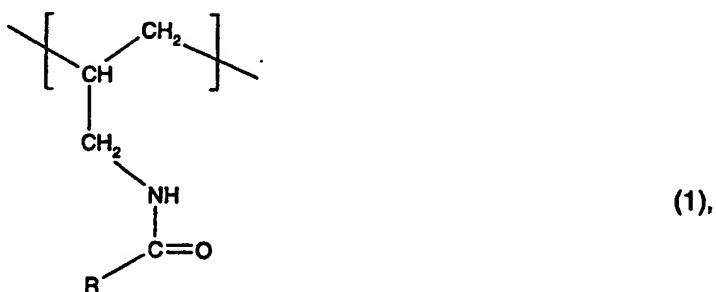
AL	Albania	ES	Spain	LS	Lesotho	SI	Slovenia
AM	Armenia	FI	Finland	LT	Lithuania	SK	Slovakia
AT	Austria	FR	France	LU	Luxembourg	SN	Senegal
AU	Australia	GA	Gabon	LV	Latvia	SZ	Swaziland
AZ	Azerbaijan	GB	United Kingdom	MC	Monaco	TD	Chad
BA	Bosnia and Herzegovina	GE	Georgia	MD	Republic of Moldova	TG	Togo
BB	Barbados	GH	Ghana	MG	Madagascar	TJ	Tajikistan
BE	Belgium	GN	Guinea	MK	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	TM	Turkmenistan
BF	Burkina Faso	GR	Greece	ML	Mali	TR	Turkey
BG	Bulgaria	HU	Hungary	MN	Mongolia	TT	Trinidad and Tobago
BJ	Benin	IE	Ireland	MR	Mauritania	UA	Ukraine
BR	Brazil	IL	Israel	MW	Malawi	UG	Uganda
BY	Belarus	IS	Iceland	MX	Mexico	US	United States of America
CA	Canada	IT	Italy	NE	Niger	UZ	Uzbekistan
CF	Central African Republic	JP	Japan	NL	Netherlands	VN	Viet Nam
CG	Congo	KE	Kenya	NO	Norway	YU	Yugoslavia
CH	Switzerland	KG	Kyrgyzstan	NZ	New Zealand	ZW	Zimbabwe
CI	Côte d'Ivoire	KP	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	PL	Poland		
CM	Cameroon	KR	Republic of Korea	PT	Portugal		
CN	China	KZ	Kazakhstan	RO	Romania		
CU	Cuba	LC	Saint Lucia	RU	Russian Federation		
CZ	Czech Republic	LI	Liechtenstein	SD	Sudan		
DE	Germany	LK	Sri Lanka	SE	Sweden		
DK	Denmark	LR	Liberia	SG	Singapore		
EE	Estonia						

- 1 -

FUNCTIONALIZED POLYALLYLAMINES AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE SAME

The present invention relates to novel polyallyl amine based polymers, a process for their manufacture and their use for the preparation of mouldings, in particular ophthalmic mouldings, or surface coatings.

The polymers of the invention are preferably a derivative of a polyallyl amine having a weight average molecular weight of at least 2000 that, based on the number of amino groups of the polyallyl amine, comprises from approximately 1 to 99 % of units of formula



wherein R is C₂-C₆-alkyl which is substituted by two or more same or different substituents selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, C₂-C₅-alkanoyloxy and C₂-C₅-alkylamino-carbonyloxy.

R is preferably linear C₃-C₆-alkyl, more preferably linear C₄-C₅-alkyl, and most preferably n-pentyl which is in each case substituted as defined above.

Suitable substituents of the alkyl radical R are -OH, a radical -O-C(O)-R₁, and/or a radical -O-C(O)-NH-R₁' wherein R₁ and R₁' are each independently of the other C₁-C₄-alkyl, preferably methyl, ethyl or n- or iso-propyl, and more preferably methyl or ethyl.

Preferred substituents of the alkyl radical R are hydroxy, acetoxy, propionyloxy, n- or iso-butanoyloxy, methylaminocarbonyloxy or ethylaminocarbonyloxy, especially hydroxy, acetoxy or propionyloxy and in particular hydroxy.

A preferred embodiment of the invention relates to polyallyl amines comprising units of the above formula (1), wherein R is a radical of formula

- 2 -

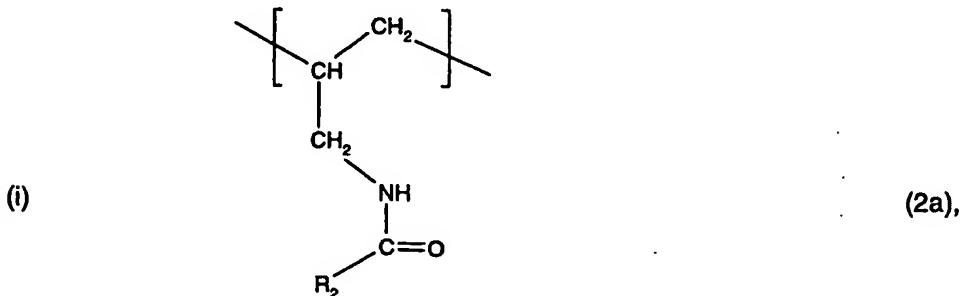


wherein p is 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, preferably 3 or 4 and in particular 4, each R* is independently hydrogen or a radical -C(O)-R₁ or -C(O)-NH-R₁', and for R₁ and R₁' the above meanings and preferences apply. R is even more preferred a radical of the above formula (2) wherein p is 3 or 4, in particular 4, and each group -OR* independently is hydroxy or hydroxy which is partly or completely acetylated, in particular hydroxy. Particular preferred radicals R are 1,2,3,4,5-pentahydroxy-n-pentyl or 1,2,3,4,5-pentahydroxy-n-pentyl wherein the hydroxy groups are partly or completely acetylated.

The polymers of the invention are derivatives of a polyallyl amine that, based on the number of amino groups of the polyallyl amine, comprise from about 1 to 99 %, preferably from 10 to 80 %, more preferably, from 15 to 75 %, even more preferably 20 to 70 % and in particular 40 to 60 %, of units of formula (1). The polymers of the invention are advantageously water-soluble.

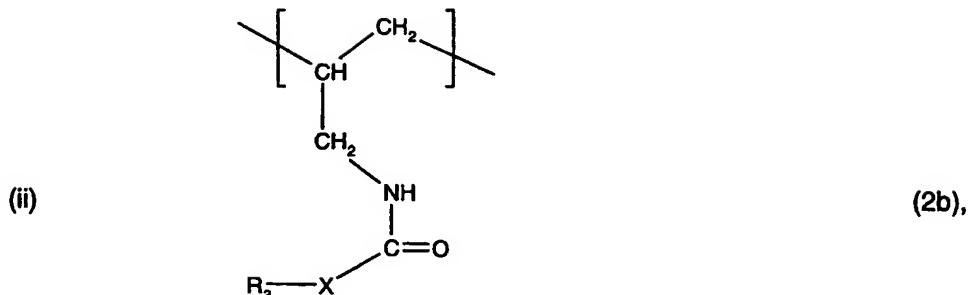
The term units of formula (1) or of another formula number below is always to be understood as encompassing one or more different species falling under the respective formula; preferably the term means one single species.

In addition to the units of formula (1), the novel polyallyl amines may comprise further modifier units. Of the many possibilities for such modifiers, the following may be mentioned by way of example:

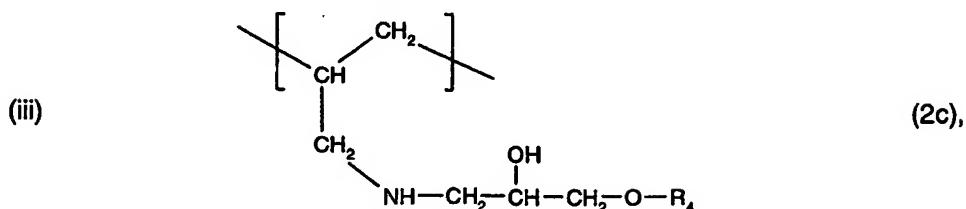


wherein R₂ is C₁-C₁₂-alkyl which is unsubstituted or substituted by an amino, hydroxy or carboxy group;

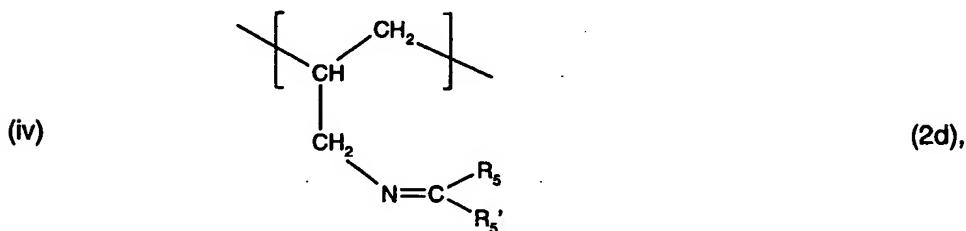
- 3 -



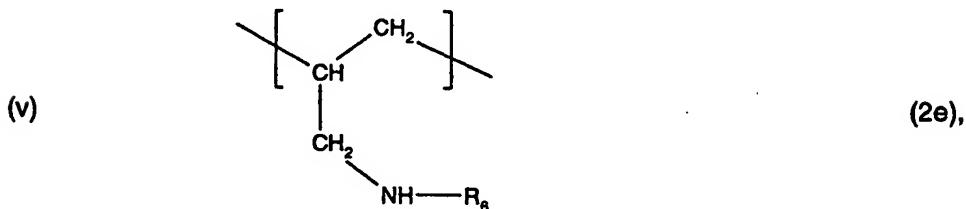
wherein X is -O- or -NH- and R₃ is C₁-C₁₂-alkyl;



wherein R₄ is hydrogen, C₁-C₆-alkyl which is unsubstituted or substituted by hydroxy, or is C₅-C₇-cycloalkyl or phenyl;



wherein R₅ is C₁-C₁₂-alkyl and R_{5'} is hydrogen or C₁-C₁₂-alkyl; or

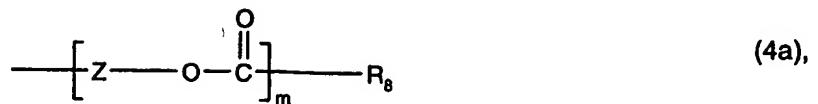


wherein R₆ is a radical comprising an ethylenically unsaturated group, for example a C₃-C₁₂-alkenyl radical which may be further substituted by hydroxy, or a radical of formula



wherein Q₁ is, for example, a radical of formula

- 4 -



and wherein

Z is linear or branched C₂-C₁₂alkylene,

R₈ is an olefinically unsaturated copolymerisable radical having from 2 to 24 carbon atoms which may be further substituted,

W is a C₂-C₁₂alkylene radical, phenylene radical or C₇-C₁₂aralkylene radical,

each of R₇ and R'₇ independently of the other is hydrogen, C₁-C₄alkyl or halogen,

each of m and n independently of the other is the number 0 or 1, and

Z'' is C₁-C₆alkylene.

In the above formulae, the following meanings and preferences apply:

R₂ is preferably C₁-C₆-alkyl, especially C₁-C₄-alkyl and even more preferably C₁-C₃-alkyl which may be substituted in each case as mentioned above. Preferred substituents of the alkyl radical R₂ are a hydroxy or carboxy group, in particular a hydroxy group.

Preferred meanings of R₂ are (i) C₁-C₃-alkyl, in particular methyl or ethyl; (ii) hydroxy- C₂-C₅-alkyl, especially hydroxy-C₂-C₃-alkyl and in particular β-hydroxyethyl, β-hydroxypropyl or γ-

- 5 -

hydroxypropyl; or (iii) carboxy-C₁-C₆-alkyl, especially carboxy-C₂-C₄-alkyl and in particular -(CH₂)₂₋₃-COOH.

X is -O- or preferably -NH-. R₃ is preferably C₁-C₆-alkyl, more preferably C₁-C₃-alkyl and in particular methyl, ethyl or n- or isopropyl.

R_4 is preferably hydrogen, hydroxy-substituted C₂-C₄-alkyl or cyclohexyl, and in particular hydrogen, 2-hydroxethyl or 2-hydroxypropyl.

R_5 is preferably C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, more preferably C_1 - C_3 -alkyl and in particular methyl or ethyl. R_5' is preferably hydrogen or C_1 - C_3 -alkyl, in particular hydrogen.

R_6 as an alkenyl radical is preferably a C₃-C₆-alkenyl radical which is optionally substituted by hydroxy and more preferably hydroxy-substituted C₃-C₅-alkenyl. Examples of preferred alkenyl radicals R_6 are allyl or in particular the radical -CH₂-CH(OH)-CH₂-CH=CH₂.

Z is preferably linear or branched C₂-C₆alkylene, more preferably linear C₂-C₆alkylene and most preferably linear C₂-C₄alkylene. In a preferred embodiment of the invention, Z is 1,3-propylene or, especially, 1,2-ethylene.

Suitable substituents on the olefinic C₂-C₂₄ radical R₈ are, for example, C₁-C₄alkoxy, halogen, phenyl or carboxy.

R_8 is, for example, a radical of formula



wherein q is the number 0 or 1.

R₉ is hydrogen, C₁-C₄alkyl or halogen.

each of R₁₀ and R₁₁ independently of the other is hydrogen, C₁-C₄alkyl, phenyl, carboxy or halogen, and

Z' is linear or branched C₁-C₁₂alkylene or unsubstituted or C₁-C₄alkyl- or C₁-C₄alkoxy-substituted phenylene or C₁-C₄aralkylene.

When Z' is a phenylene radical, it is, for example, unsubstituted or methyl- or methoxy-substituted 1,2-, 1,3- or 1,4-phenylene. Preferably, Z' as a phenylene radical is 1,3- or 1,4-phenylene.

When Z' is an aralkylene radical, it is, for example, unsubstituted or methyl- or methoxy-substituted benzylene, wherein the methylene group is bonded to the amine nitrogen in each case. Preferably, Z' as an aralkylene radical is the 1,3- or 1,4-phenylenemethylene radical, wherein the methylene group is bonded to the amine nitrogen -NH- in each case.

Z' is preferably unsubstituted or methyl- or methoxy-substituted phenylene or phenylene-methylene or C₁-C₁₂alkylene, more preferably 1,3- or 1,4-phenylene or C₁-C₆alkylene, especially C₁-C₂alkylene and most preferably methylene.

q is the number 1 or, preferably, the number 0.

R₉ is preferably hydrogen, methyl or chlorine and most preferably hydrogen or methyl.

Each of R₁₀ and R₁₁ independently of the other is preferably hydrogen, carboxy, chlorine, methyl or phenyl. In a preferred embodiment of the invention, R₁₀ is hydrogen, chlorine, methyl or phenyl and R₁₁ is hydrogen or carboxy. Most preferably, R₁₀ and R₁₁ are each hydrogen.

Examples of suitable radicals R₈ are vinyl, 2-propenyl, allyl, 2-butenyl, o-, m- or p-vinylphenyl, styryl, 2-carboxyvinyl, 2-chloro-2-carboxyvinyl, 1,2-dichloro-2-carboxyvinyl, 1,2-dimethyl-2-carboxyvinyl and 2-methyl-2-carboxyvinyl.

Especially preferred radicals R₈ correspond to formula (5) wherein q is 0, R₉ is hydrogen or methyl, R₁₀ is hydrogen, methyl, chlorine or phenyl and R₁₁ is hydrogen or carboxy.

Other especially preferred radicals R₈ correspond to the above formula (5) wherein q is 1, Z' is 1,3- or 1,4-phenylene or C₁-C₆alkylene, especially C₁-C₂alkylene, R₉ is hydrogen or methyl and R₁₀ and R₁₁ are each hydrogen.

Z' is preferably C_1 - C_4 alkylene, especially methylene or 1,1-dimethylmethylen.

In formulae (4b) and (4c), the variable W is preferably a C_2 - C_6 alkylene radical or a 1,3- or 1,4-phenylene radical and most preferably a C_2 - C_3 alkylene radical. Each of R_7 and R_7' independently of the other is preferably hydrogen, methyl or chlorine. Most preferably, each of R_7 and R_7' independently of the other is hydrogen or methyl.

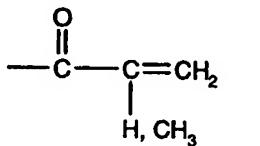
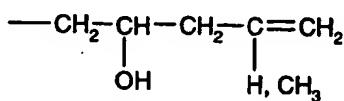
One group of suitable radicals Q corresponds to the above formula (3) wherein n is 0 and Q_1 is a radical of the above formula (4a) wherein m is 0 and for R_8 the meanings and preferences given above apply.

A second group of suitable radicals Q corresponds to the above formula (3) wherein n is 1 and Q_1 is a radical of the above formula (4a) wherein m is 0 and for R_8 and Z the meanings and preferences given above apply.

A further group of suitable radicals Q corresponds to the above formula (3) wherein n is 1 and Q_1 is a radical of the above formula (4a) wherein m is 1 and for R_8 and Z the meanings and preferences given above apply.

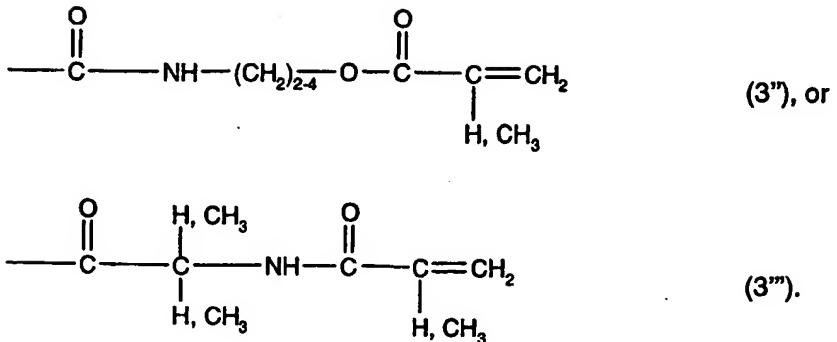
A further group of suitable radicals Q corresponds to the above formula (3) wherein n is 0 and Q_1 is a radical of the above formula (4d) wherein for R_8 and Z' the meanings and preferences given above apply.

Especially preferred radicals R_6 correspond to formula



(3'),

- 8 -



The polyallyl amines of the invention may contain, besides unreacted units of formula



or a suitable salt thereof such as a hydrochloride thereof, and units of the formula (1), one or more same or different units of formulae (2a) - (2e) above. The over-all percentage of units of formulae (2a) - (2e) can add up to, for example, 1 to 99 %, preferably 1 to 75 %, more preferably 1 to 50 % and in particular to 5 to 20 %, based in each case on the number of amino groups of the polyallyl amine.

The polyallyl amine polymers of the invention preferably comprise at least 1 %, more preferably at least 10 %, even more preferably at least 20 %, particularly preferably at least 40 % of units of formula (1a), based on the number of amino groups of the polyallyl amine.

One group of preferred polyallyl amine polymers according to the invention concerns those consisting essentially of units of formulae (1) and units of formula (1a), wherein the amount of the first ones is as given above including the preferences, and the percentage of the latter ones adds up to 100 %, based on the number of amino groups of the polyallyl amine.

Another preferred embodiment of the invention concerns polyallyl amine polymers consisting essentially of

- (a) units of formula (1),
- (b) units of formula (2a), (2b), (2c) and/or (2d), and

(c) units of formula (1a).

Component (b) of the above polymers preferably comprises units of the formula (2a), (2b) or (2c) or a mixture of different units of formulae (2a), (2b) and/or (2c). Component (b) more preferably refers to one or two different units of formulae (2a) and/or (2b).

According to this embodiment of the invention, the amount of units of formula (1) [= component (a)] of the polymers is as given above including the preferences; the percentage of component (b) is from 1 to 99 %, preferably 1 to 75 %, more preferably 1 to 50 % and in particular 5 to 20 %, and the percentage of units of formula (1a) adds up to 100 %, based in each case on the number of amino groups of the polyallyl amine.

Still another preferred embodiment of the invention concerns polyallyl amine polymers consisting essentially of

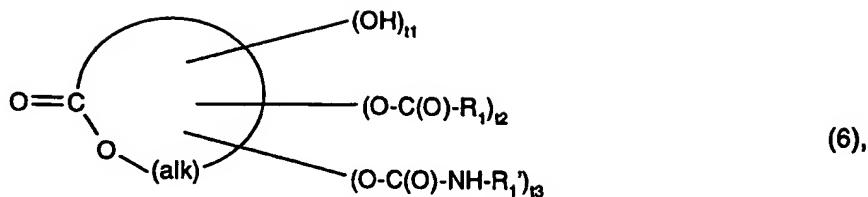
- (a₁) units of formula (1),
- (b₁) units of formula (2e),
- (c₁) units of formula (1a), and optionally
- (d₁) units of formula (2a), (2b), (2c) and/or (2d).

According to this embodiment of the invention, the amount of units of formula (1) [= component (a₁)] of the polymers is as given above including the preferences; the percentage of component (b₁) is, for example from 0.5 to 40 %, preferably 1 to 30 %, more preferably 2 to 25 % and in particular 5 to 20 %, the percentage of component (d₁) is, for example, from 0 to 50 % and preferably 0 to 25 %, and the percentage of units of formula (1a) adds up to 100 %, based in each case on the number of amino groups of the polyallyl amine.

The polyallyl amine polymers of the invention have a weight average molecular weight of, for example, from 2000 to 1000000, preferably from 3000 to 500000, more preferably from 5000 to 150000 and in particular from 7500 to 100000.

The polymers of the invention may be prepared in a manner known per se. For example, a polyallyl amine having a weight average molecular weight of at least 2000 that comprises units of the above formula (1a), may be reacted with a lactone of formula

- 10 -



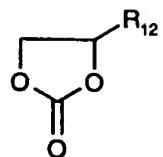
wherein (alk) is linear or branched C₂-C₆-alkylene, the sum of (t₁+t₂+t₃) is at least 1, and R₁ and R'₁ are as defined above, to yield a polyallyl amine polymer comprising units of formula (1) and (1a).

The reaction between the polyallyl amine and the lactone may be performed in a manner known per se; for example, the polyallyl amine is reacted with the lactone in an aqueous medium at a temperature from about 0 to 100°C, preferably 15 to 60 °C, more preferably 20 to 35°C, and in particular at room temperature. The ratio of units of formula (1) and (1a) in the final polymer is determined by the stoichiometry of the reactants. The lactones of formula (6) are known or may be prepared according to known methods. Compounds of formula (6) wherein t₂ or t₃ is ≥ 1 are for example available by reacting the respective hydroxy compound of formula (6) with a compound R₁-C(O)X or R'₁-NCO under conditions well-known in the art. Polyallyl amine starting materials of different molecular weights are commercially available e.g. in form of the hydrochloride. Said hydrochloride is converted previously into the free amine, for example, by a treatment with a base, for example with sodium or potassium hydroxide solution.

Polyallyl amines comprising additional modifier units may be prepared by adding to the reaction mixture of the polyallyl amine and the compound of formula (6) simultaneously or preferably successively one or more different compounds, for example, from the group of



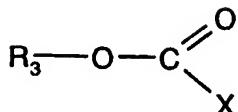
- 11 -



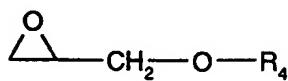
(6c),

 $R_3 - N=C=O$

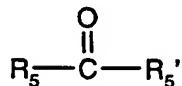
(6d),



(6e),



(6f),



(6g),

 $R_6 - X$

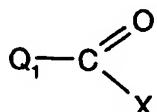
(6h),



(6i),

 $Q_1 - N=C=O$

(6j), or



(6k),

wherein X is halogen, preferably chlorine, (alk') is C₁-C₁₂-alkylene, R₁₂ is hydrogen or C₁-C₂-alkyl, preferably hydrogen or methyl, and R₃, R₄, R₅, R_{5'}, R₆ and Q₁ are as defined above.

The reaction proceeds, for example, in an aqueous solution at room temperature or at elevated temperature of for example 25 to 60°C and yields polymers comprising units of formula (2a) [with compounds of formulae (6a), (6b) or (6c)], units of formula (2b) [with compounds of formulae (6d), (6e)], units of formula (2c) [with compounds of formula (6f)], units of formula (2d) [with compounds of formula (6g)] or units of formula (2e) [with compounds of formulae (6h), (6i), (6j) (6k)].

The reactions of the amino groups of the polyallyl amine with the different compounds of formulae (6) or (6a) - (6k) are well-known in the art and may be carried out as described in textbooks of organic chemistry; since the reactions proceed in general quantitatively, the

structure of the modified polymers is determined mainly by the stoichiometry of the reactants that are employed into the reaction.

The polyallyl amine polymers obtained are isolated and purified according to methods known *per se*, for example extraction, precipitation, crystallisation, recrystallisation, dialysis, ultrafiltration or chromatographic purification methods. The compounds are obtained in high yields and a high degree of purity. In particular when using ultrafiltration the polymers according to the invention can be obtained in extremely pure form, for example in the form of concentrated aqueous solutions that are free or at least substantially free of reaction products, such as salts, and of starting materials or other non-polymeric constituents.

The preferred method of purifying the polymers according to the invention, ultrafiltration, may be carried out in a manner known *per se*. It is possible for the ultrafiltration to be carried out repeatedly, for example from two to ten times. The ultrafiltration may alternatively be carried out continuously until the desired degree of purity has been achieved. The desired degree of purity may, in principle, be as high as desired, and is preferably so selected that the content of undesired constituents in the polymer is, for example, $\leq 0.001\%$, especially $\leq 0.0001\%$ (1 ppm). The polymers may in addition, for example as a result of their synthesis, comprise constituents that are acceptable from the physiological point of view, for example sodium chloride, such constituents advantageously being present in an amount of $\leq 1\%$, especially $\leq 0.1\%$, or more especially $\leq 0.01\%$.

The polyallyl amine polymers of the present invention are useful, for example, for the surface-modification of anorganic or preferably organic substrates. The polymers of the invention thus advantageously may be used to improve certain properties, for example the bio-compatibility in the widest sense and more particular the hydrophilicity and wettability, of biomedical articles such as ophthalmic mouldings, for example, intraocular lenses, artificial cornea or particularly contact lenses. For example, the polymers of the invention may be used in the surface-modification processes as disclosed in PCT application WO 96/29796 or EP-A-0632329. The polymers of the invention further may be used for the formation of multi-layer coatings on biomedical articles, for example on ophthalmic lenses such as contact lenses, as disclosed in PCT application WO 99/35520. This coating technique involves attaching layers of one or more different cationic materials and layers of one or

more different anionic materials one after the other on a given material surface in order to achieve a hydrophilic multi-layer coating thereon. The polyallyl amine polymers of the invention are preferably used in this process as a cationic layer imparting an improved hydrophilicity to the surface of the biomedical article.

Polymers according to the invention having modifier units of formula (2e) are crosslinkable or polymerizable and thus can be used, in addition to surface modification purposes, for the manufacture of mouldings such as biomedical mouldings, in particular ophthalmic mouldings such as contact lenses. Suitable polymers having units of the formula (2e) thus may be crosslinked or polymerized effectively and in a selective manner, especially by photocrosslinking. The polymerization or crosslinking may be carried out in the presence or absence of an additional vinyl comonomer using customary free radical polymerization technics. Suitably, a photoinitiator such as benzoin methyl ether, 1-hydroxycyclohexyl-phenylketone, Darocure 1173 or an Irgacure type is added to a preferably aqueous solution of the polyallyl amine polymer which may comprise additional components such as a comonomer, and the solution is then crosslinked or polymerized in a mould using actinic radiation, in particular UV light. The crosslinked polymers are water-insoluble.

The photocrosslinking is preferably carried out directly from an approximately 15 to 90 % aqueous solution of a polymerizable or crosslinkable polymer according to the invention, optionally after the addition of an additional vinyl comonomer.

Biomedical articles such as contact lenses obtainable from a polymer according to the invention have a wide range of advantageous properties, amongst which mention should be made, for example, of their excellent tolerability by the human cornea, which is based on a balance of water content, oxygen permeability and mechanical properties. The contact lenses according to the invention also exhibit a high degree of dimensional stability. No changes in shape can be detected even after autoclaving at, for example, approximately 120°C.

Attention may also be drawn to the fact that the contact lenses from a material according to the invention can be produced in a very simple and efficient manner compared with the state of the art. This is as a result of several factors. First, the starting materials can be obtained or produced at low cost. Secondly, there is the advantage that the polymers are

surprisingly stable, so that they can be subjected to a high degree of purification. It is therefore possible to use for the crosslinking a polymer that requires virtually no subsequent purification, such as especially the complicated extraction of unpolymerised constituents.

All of the above advantages naturally apply not only to contact lenses but also to other mouldings according to the invention. The total effect of the various advantageous aspects in the production of the mouldings according to the invention is that the mouldings according to the invention are suitable especially as mass-produced articles, such as, for example, contact lenses that are worn for a short length of time and are then replaced by new lenses.

In the following Examples amounts are amounts by weight, unless specified otherwise, and temperatures are given in degrees Celsius. The Examples are not intended to limit the invention in any way, for example to the scope of the Examples.

Example 1 (Preparation of a polyallyl amine- δ -gluconolactone adduct):

300 g of an aqueous polyallyl amine solution containing 0.682 mol equivalents of polyallyl amine are placed in a glass apparatus, and the apparatus is then flushed with nitrogen. Following the addition of 60.93 g (0.342 mol equivalents) of δ -gluconolactone at room temperature (25-27°C), the reaction mixture is stirred for about 7 hours at a temperature from 25 to 35°C. The solution is then purified by means of filtration over a 0.45 μm filter and via ultrafiltration. After lyophilization 95.5 g of a powdered colorless polyallyl amine derivative comprising 50% of $-\text{NH}-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{[CH(OH)]}_4-\text{CH}_2-\text{OH}$ units, based on the number of amino groups of the polyallyl amine is obtained.

Example 2: The procedure of Example 1 is repeated using (a) 48.6 g (0.273 mol equivalents) and (b) 30.3 g (0.17 mol equivalents) each of δ -gluconolactone. Polyallyl amine derivatives comprising (a) 40% and (b) 25 % of $-\text{NH}-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{[CH(OH)]}_4-\text{CH}_2-\text{OH}$ units, based on the number of amino groups of the polyallyl amine are obtained.

Example 3: (Preparation of a polyallyl amine- δ -gluconolactone adduct comprising polymerizable groups)

- 15 -

300 g of an aqueous polyallyl amine solution containing 0.682 mol equivalents of polyallyl amine are placed in a glass apparatus, and the apparatus is then flushed with nitrogen. Following the addition of 30.3 g (0.17 mol equivalents) of δ -gluconolactone at room temperature (25-27°C), the reaction mixture is stirred for about 7 hours at a temperature from 25 to 35°C. To the resulting aqueous solution are added 15.9 g (0.1 mol equivalents) of 2-isocyanatoethyl methacrylate (IEM), and the reaction mixture is further stirred. After the reaction is complete the reaction mixture is worked up as described in Example 1. The product is a polyallyl amine derivative comprising 25 % of $-\text{NH}-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{[CH(OH)]}_4-\text{CH}_2-\text{OH}$ units and 15 % of $-\text{NH}-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{NH}-\text{(CH}_2)_2-\text{O}-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)=\text{CH}_2$ units, based on the number of amino groups of the polyallyl amine.

Example 4: (Preparation of a polyallyl amine- δ -gluconolactone adduct comprising a further non-reactive modifier)

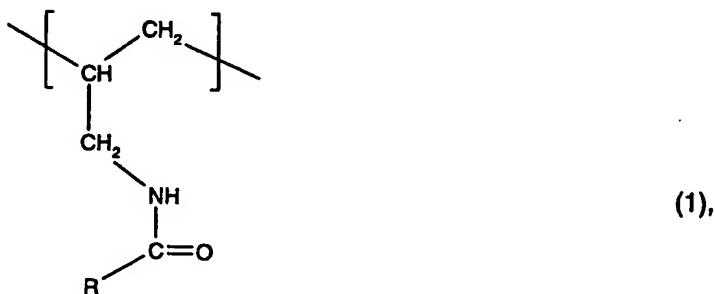
The procedure of Example 3 is repeated but using 48.6 g (0.273 mol equivalents) of δ -gluconolactone and 5.0 g (0.1 mol equivalents) of ethylene carbonate. A polyallyl amine derivative comprising 40 % of $-\text{NH}-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{[CH(OH)]}_4-\text{CH}_2-\text{OH}$ units and 15 % of $-\text{NH}-\text{C}(\text{O})-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{OH}$ units, based on the number of amino groups of the polyallyl amine is obtained.

Example 5:

The procedure of Example 3 is repeated but using 5.9 g (0.07 mol equivalents) of γ -butyrolactone instead of the IEM amount. A polyallyl amine derivative comprising 25 % of $-\text{NH}-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{[CH(OH)]}_4-\text{CH}_2-\text{OH}$ units and 10 % of $-\text{NH}-\text{C}(\text{O})-(\text{CH}_2)_3-\text{OH}$ units, based on the number of amino groups of the polyallyl amine is obtained.

What is claimed is:

1. A polymer which is a derivative of a polyallyl amine having a weight average molecular weight of at least 2000 that, based on the number of amino groups of the polyallyl amine, comprises from approximately 1 to 99 % of units of formula



wherein R is C₂-C₆-alkyl which is substituted by two or more same or different substituents selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, C₂-C₅-alkanoyloxy and C₂-C₅-alkylamino-carbonyloxy.

2. A polymer according to claim 1, wherein R is C₃-C₆-alkyl which is substituted by two or more same or different substituents selected from the group consisting of a radical -OH, -O-C(O)-R₁ and -O-C(O)-NH-R₁', wherein R₁ and R₁' are each independently of the other C₁-C₄-alkyl.
3. A polymer according to claim 2, wherein R is a radical of formula



wherein p is 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, preferably 3 or 4 and in particular 4, each R* is independently hydrogen or a radical -C(O)-R₁ or -C(O)-NH-R₁', and R₁ and R₁' are as defined in claim 2.

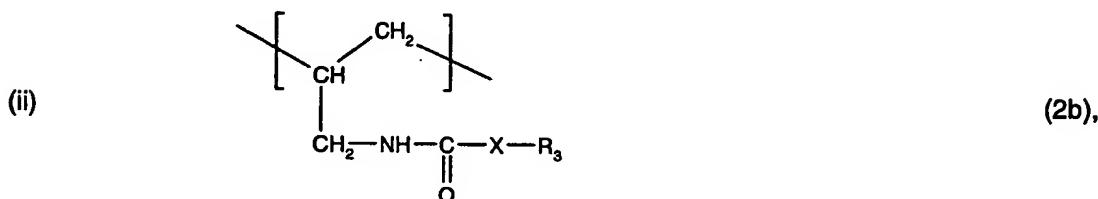
4. A polymer according to any one of claims 1 to 3, which comprises from 10 to 80 %, preferably from 15 to 75 %, more preferably from 20 to 70 % and most preferably from 40 to 60 %, of units of formula (1), based on the number of amino groups of the polyallyl amine.

- 17 -

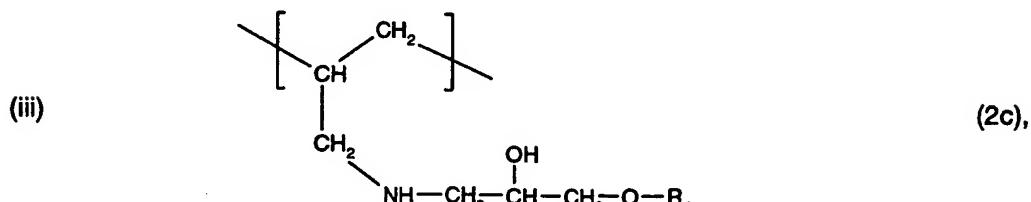
5. A polymer according to any one of claims 1 to 4, which comprises, in addition to the units of formula (1), further modifier units selected from the group consisting of



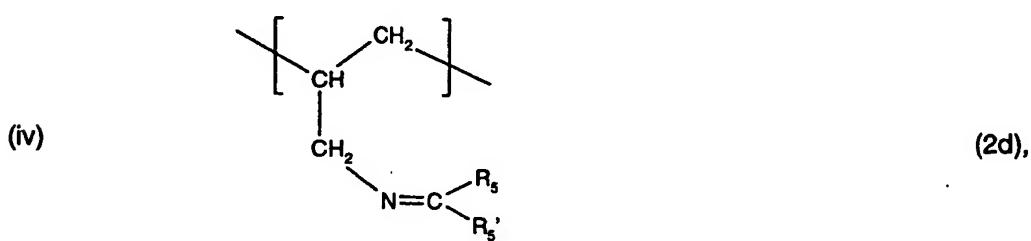
wherein R₂ is C₁-C₁₂-alkyl which is unsubstituted or substituted by an amino, hydroxy or carboxy group;



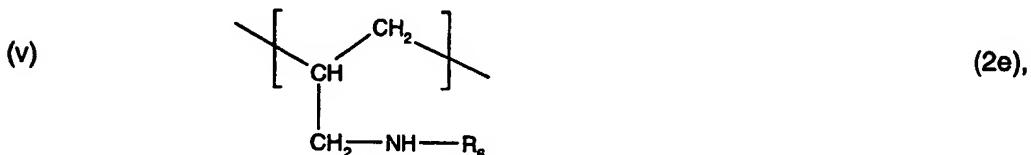
wherein X is -O- or -NH- and R₃ is C₁-C₁₂-alkyl;



wherein R₄ is hydrogen, C₁-C₆-alkyl which is unsubstituted or substituted by hydroxy, or is C₆-C₇-cycloalkyl or phenyl;



wherein R₅ is C₁-C₁₂-alkyl and R_{5'} is hydrogen or C₁-C₁₂-alkyl; and

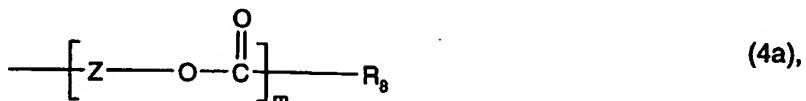


- 18 -

wherein R_6 is a C_3-C_{12} -alkenyl radical which is unsubstituted or further substituted by hydroxy, or is a radical of formula



wherein Q_1 is a radical of formula



and wherein

Z is linear or branched C_2-C_{12} alkylene,

R_8 is an olefinically unsaturated copolymerisable radical having from 2 to 24 carbon atoms which may be further substituted,

W is a C_2-C_{12} alkylene radical, phenylene radical or C_7-C_{12} aralkylene radical,

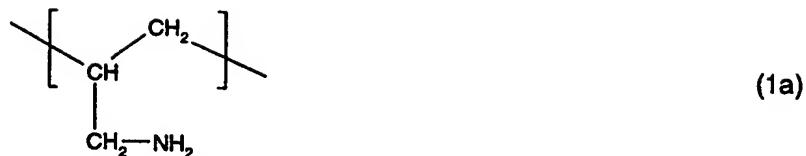
each of R_7 and R'_7 independently of the other is hydrogen, C_1-C_4 alkyl or halogen,

each of m and n independently of the other is the number 0 or 1, and

Z'' is C_1-C_6 alkylene.

6. A polymer according to any one of claims 1 to 4, consisting essentially of units of formula

- 19 -



or a suitable salt thereof, and units of the formula (1).

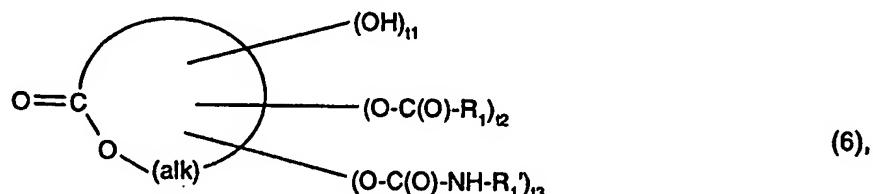
7. A polymer according to any one of claims 1 to 5, consisting essentially of

- (a) units of formula (1) according to claim 1,
- (b) units of formula (2a), (2b), (2c) and/or (2d) according to claim 5, and
- (c) units of formula (1a) according to claim 6.

8. A polymer according to any one of claims 1 to 5, consisting essentially of

- (a₁) units of formula (1) according to claim 1,
- (b₁) units of formula (2e) according to claim 5,
- (c₁) units of formula (1a) according to claim 6, and optionally
- (d₁) units of formula (2a), (2b), (2c) and/or (2d) according to claim 5.

9. A process for the preparation of a polymer according to claim 1, wherein a polyallyl amine having a weight average molecular weight of at least 2000 is reacted with a lactone of formula



wherein (alk) is linear or branched C₂-C₆-alkylene, the sum of (t₁+t₂+t₃) is at least 1, and R₁ and R'₁ are as in claim 1, in an aqueous medium at a temperature of from 0 to 100°C.

10. Use of a polymer according to any one of claims 1 to 8 for the surface-modification of anorganic or organic substrates.

11. Use of a polymer according to claim 8 for the manufacture of biomedical mouldings, in particular ophthalmic mouldings such as contact lenses.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
 PCT/EP 99/08868

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7	C08F8/00	C09D139/02	G02B1/04
-------	----------	------------	----------

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7	C08F	C09D	G02B
-------	------	------	------

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	EP 0 791 605 A (NITTO BOSEKI CO., LTD.) 27 August 1997 (1997-08-27) page 3, line 35 - line 55 page 8, line 4 - line 8; claims 1,2 ---	1-11
Y	EP 0 154 742 A (NITTO BOSEKI CO., LTD.) 18 September 1985 (1985-09-18) claims 1-7 ---	1-11
Y	EP 0 768 321 A (AJINOMOTO CO., LTD.) 16 April 1997 (1997-04-16) page 3, line 41 - line 57 page 5, line 3 - line 28 page 6, line 25 - line 48; claims 1-11 ---	1-11 -/-

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

Date of mailing of the International search report

17 February 2000

01/03/2000

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Permentier, W

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP 99/08868

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	EP 0 632 329 A (CIBA-GEIGY AG) 4 January 1995 (1995-01-04) cited in the application claims 1-73 ----	1-11
A	EP 0 207 495 A (NITTO BOSEKI CO., LTD.) 7 January 1987 (1987-01-07) claims 1-4 ----	1
A	EP 0 201 192 A (NITTO BOSEKI CO., LTD.) 17 December 1986 (1986-12-17) claims 1-13 ----	1
A	EP 0 142 962 A (NITTO BOSEKI CO., LTD.) 29 May 1985 (1985-05-29) claims 1-8 -----	1

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

Int'l. Application No

PCT/EP 99/08868

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
EP 791605	A 27-08-1997	JP NO	9286816 A 970768 A	04-11-1997 21-08-1997
EP 154742	A 18-09-1985	JP JP JP AU AU CA US US	1026362 B 1541207 C 60106804 A 553717 B 3542084 A 1233933 A 4604451 A 4687817 A	23-05-1989 31-01-1990 12-06-1985 24-07-1986 23-05-1985 08-03-1988 05-08-1986 18-08-1987
EP 768321	A 16-04-1997	JP US	9169821 A 5760257 A	30-06-1997 02-06-1998
EP 632329	A 04-01-1995	AT AU AU CA CN CZ DE DK ES FI GR HK HU IL JP MX NO NZ PL US US US US ZA	160888 T 683256 B 6603994 A 2127200 A 1102825 A 9401610 A 59404708 D 632329 T 2109647 T 943129 A 3025768 T 1003846 A 69305 A 110171 A 7089925 A 9404973 A 942495 A 260892 A 304064 A 5527925 A 5612389 A 5612391 A 5621018 A 9404758 A	15-12-1997 06-11-1997 23-02-1995 03-01-1995 24-05-1995 18-01-1995 15-01-1998 04-05-1998 16-01-1998 03-01-1995 31-03-1998 06-11-1998 28-09-1995 11-04-1999 04-04-1995 31-01-1995 03-01-1995 27-02-1996 09-01-1995 18-06-1996 18-03-1997 18-03-1997 15-04-1997 03-01-1995
EP 207495	A 07-01-1987	JP JP JP US	1777005 C 4068622 B 62010104 A 4701497 A	28-07-1993 02-11-1992 19-01-1987 20-10-1987
EP 201192	A 12-11-1986	JP JP JP US	1917327 C 6045649 B 61233007 A 4670517 A	23-03-1995 15-06-1994 17-10-1986 02-06-1987
EP 142962	A 29-05-1985	JP JP JP JP JP AU AU	1481477 C 60106801 A 63029881 B 1494493 C 60108405 A 63043402 B 551886 B 3523484 A	10-02-1989 12-06-1985 15-06-1988 20-04-1989 13-06-1985 30-08-1988 15-05-1986 30-05-1985

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

Int. Jonal Application No

PCT/EP 99/08868

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 142962 A		CA 1233934 A,C US 4680360 A	08-03-1988 14-07-1987